

well-being of our country, bipartisanship can carry the day. And if and when we do disagree, we should openly and honestly discuss our differences, like statesmen.

We have not seen the last of MIKE OXLEY. Be it in a boardroom or at a Buckeye game, his presence will surely be known.

It is an honor to call MIKE OXLEY a friend, and we wish him Godspeed.

TRIBUTE TO "USS HYMAN G.  
RICKOVER" SSN 709

**HON. GENE TAYLOR**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of the crews, past and present, of the Submarine USS *Hyman G. Rickover* (SSN 709). On the 14th of December, this vessel will be inactivated, and its name struck from the rolls of U.S. warships. The contribution of this vessel to the defense of this Nation has been second to none, yet somewhat unheralded. From the Cold War through the current War on Terrorism, she and her crew have stood the watch. The *Rickover* served as a testament to the standards of excellence inspired by her namesake, the late Admiral Rickover. The father of the nuclear Navy, Admiral Rickover instilled a culture of technical excellence and individual responsibility in the Navy Nuclear Propulsion Program that continues to this day.

I would also like to commend the sponsor of this ship—Mrs. Eleonore Rickover, for her years of faithful support to the crew. She struck a chord at the ship's christening, when she said, "In the name of the United States, I christen thee *Hyman G. Rickover*. May God bless her and all who sail in her, and may God bless their families and loved ones, for they also serve who only stand and wait." Mrs. Rickover lived up to those words in the years since that day with generous and heartfelt support of the sailors and families of *Rickover*. Going far beyond an occasional appearance, she embraced the ship and her crew—interested, involved and caring. Her service was a fitting testament to the legacy of pride and service left by her husband, ADM Rickover, to the Naval nuclear power program, and the entire U.S. Navy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating this exceptional Naval warship; her crew and their families; their sponsor, Mrs. Eleonore Rickover, and the man who brought our Navy nuclear propulsion, Admiral Hyman G. Rickover.

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND WILLIAM AND MARJORIE BUEHLER

**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize 50 years spent together by Rev. William and Marjorie Buehler in marriage and in service to those in need.

Since their marriage to each other began, the Buehlers have shown complete dedication

not only to themselves but to several communities of central Mexico. As Presbyterian missionaries, William and Marjorie worked tirelessly to bring schools, running water, and inoculation centers to those who previously had absolutely no access to these resources, living in isolated villages in the State of Oaxaca.

Upon their return to the United States, the Buehlers established themselves close to the heart of Arizona, in Superior, where they soon became favored residents of the area. Reverend Buehler worked admirably as the pastor of two churches in the community, and for his efforts to improve the health of residents and the local environment, was honored with Superior's Man of the Year award. Marjorie Buehler also served Superior at that time as an elementary educator.

Even after retirement, the list of achievements accumulated by the Buehlers continued to grow and bring optimism and hope to those they served. Recognizing critical issues rising along the border of Arizona and Mexico, the Buehlers endeavored to establish border missionaries to address the needs of workers facing tragic conditions in maquiladora factories located in the dangerous region.

To this day, they continue to do volunteer work at Tucson's Primavera Homeless Shelter, and the Tucson Historical Society. It is a fitting tribute to honor these two lives dedicated to the less fortunate of the world, while cultivating a lasting marriage and family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 528: waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, and for other purposes, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

WILLIAM GREEN NOTES VITAL IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, on November 23, William D. Green, chairman and CEO of Accenture, published a very important article in the Boston Globe on the vital role of two-year colleges. As Mr. Green notes, "America's system of junior and community colleges has proved to be powerful and very effective in preparing students for success at 4-year colleges and beyond." Mr. Green speaks from very relevant experience, both as someone who himself attended Dean College, a 2-year school in Franklin, Massachusetts, and as a leader in American business. He thus understands the importance of community colleges both as one who benefited from a community college education and one who now draws on community college graduates, among others, to staff his important company.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Green does note one trend that I think we should all be trying to overcome—namely, that "state support (of community colleges and junior colleges) continues to decline." Many people with whom I have discussed the problem of inequality in America have noted that the most important thing to do to help close that gap is to increase educational opportunity. I profess to be somewhat skeptical that this is going to do as much as many argue, but that is no reason not to go forward with increased educational opportunity as much as we can. And this will not happen if we allow "state support (to) continue to decline" for these schools. They are an essential avenue for young people from families that are not affluent to begin achieving a college education.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will read Mr. Green's words and accept the relevance of what he says to our job of increasing public support for higher education. I am grateful to Mr. Green for sharing his experiences with us on this important point.

[From the Boston Globe, Nov. 23, 2006]

THE VITAL ROLE OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

(By William D. Green)

Americans finally have an issue on which they can all agree. If the country hopes to sharpen its competitive edge, it will take a significant investment in education, especially math and science. America must also boost their analytical thinking to address challenges and innovate in business and society.

Often overlooked and under appreciated, not unlike the people who attend them, these colleges can help enhance the Nation's competitiveness, improve the skills of the workforce, and contribute to a more fulfilling life for millions of citizens.

The son of a plumber and a school secretary in western Massachusetts, I had the good fortune to attend Dean College, a two-year residential college in Franklin. My two years at Dean focused me, taught me to appreciate the value of continuing my education, and provided me with the foundation for building a career in global business.

America's system of junior and community colleges has proved to be powerful and very effective in preparing students for success at four-year colleges and beyond. The potential of these institutions to raise the game of those who attend and to enhance our Nation's competitiveness is clear.

The challenge is to keep community colleges and junior colleges strong at a time when State support continues to decline. Many who have chosen to attend a junior or community college have found that the experience can lead to exciting places. Graduates can be found in Congress and on the judicial bench. They've flown aboard the space shuttle, commanded troops, and written for major publications. Some, like me, run large corporations.

These colleges mirror the communities they serve. They enable students to continue their education at an affordable cost, develop careers in a range of fields that is expanding all the time, and, more frequently nowadays, change careers to find greater job satisfaction and fulfillment.

In healthcare alone, nearly two-thirds of the industry's new workers have studied at community colleges. As the number of baby boomers who are near or at retirement age swells and the need for healthcare services grows, community colleges will fill an important gap in the workforce.

In addition to teaching people new skills, junior and community colleges often help students learn how to learn—to gain the

kind of solid footing it takes to continue their education. Research shows that students who transfer from a two-year institution to a four-year college or university are often more successful than those who start at a four-year institution.

As a society we need to applaud the accomplishments of two-year college graduates and encourage baccalaureate institutions to accept transfer students who have proved they can be successful students.

In the long run, junior and community colleges not only help students gain confidence in their ability to learn, but they also provide them a foundation for achieving better jobs.

The potential ripple effect on the economy is obvious. As the world becomes flatter and we're faced with new global competition, we must redouble our efforts to ensure that future generations of Americans enjoy a standard of living that matches or surpasses our own.

A strong system of junior and community colleges with stepped-up support—financial or otherwise—from business leaders, legislators, and educators can go a long way toward making that goal achievable.

If junior and community colleges win, we all win.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEMARIS MARSH

##### HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of DeMaris Marsh of Brandon, Florida, a tireless advocate for America's seniors. Dee's passing last week is a tremendous loss to our community.

Dee devoted countless hours to helping improve the lives of seniors. She was an extremely dedicated volunteer for the AARP, serving the organization and its members in numerous ways. She volunteered as State Director of the AARP in Arkansas and served on the AARP National Legislative Council and the Florida State AARP Legislative Council.

As a Member of Congress, Dee was an invaluable resource to me because she was a strong voice for Florida's seniors. As a member of my Long Term Care Advisory Board, Dee provided important insight into many of the issues and federal programs affecting seniors. I know she advised numerous other legislative and political officials as well.

Dee was also committed to providing direct assistance to her fellow seniors. She taught AARP Driver Safety courses and volunteered as an AARP Tax-Aide counselor, helping seniors complete their federal tax forms. Jeff Johnson, AARP Florida's Grassroots and Community Outreach Manager said it best, "Dee Marsh was a wonderful human being, an impassioned advocate for Floridians 50 and older, and a devoted volunteer for AARP. Through her many years of advocacy efforts, she was a part of helping improve the lives of millions of older Americans. We at AARP Florida will miss her kind heart, sharp mind and gracious Southern charm."

I too will miss Dee and her devotion to helping legislators, like me, better serve the needs of our community. On behalf of the entire Tampa Bay community, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Dee's family.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on December 5 and 6, 2006, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall numbers 524, 525, 526 and 527. The votes I missed included a motion to suspend the rules and agree to as amended, H. Res. 1070; a motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 1176; a motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 6099; and a motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1082.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 524 and 527, and "nay" on rollcall votes 525 and 526.

#### CONGRATULATING HASBROUCK HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL ON RECEIVING A PACEMAKER AWARD

##### HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the dedicated students and faculty at Hasbrouck Heights High School who have made The Pilot's Log an award-winning and exemplary newspaper year after year.

This November, students earned top honors from the National Scholastic Press Association by capturing a Pacemaker Award—the third in four years. Widely considered the Pulitzer Prize of high school journalism, this award is a testament to the outstanding writing, photography, layout, and management skills that students learn at Hasbrouck Heights High School. Journalism is a difficult profession and learning to meet deadlines and juggle priorities is challenging at any age.

I am extremely proud of the 2006 Pilot's Log editorial staff: Matthew Connors, Wade Friedel, Harvir Kaur, Brielle Marino, Joseph Marino, Kaitlin Olcott, Russell Piazza, Prachi Prachi, Nishit Raval, Robert Spindler, Caitlyn J. Walsh, and Nicole Weingartner. I also applaud their teachers and families, who encouraged and helped them along the way. Pilot's Log advisers Lora Gefic and Gary Pankiewicz deserve special recognition for the quality of their teaching.

It is an honor to represent so many individuals dedicated to the values and ideals of journalism. I am especially pleased that a Pacemaker Award has gone to a student newspaper written, printed, and distributed in my own Congressional District. I again offer my congratulations to the award-winning students and teachers at Hasbrouck Heights High School for the consistent, first-rate reporting in The Pilot's Log. Keep up the good work!

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE MICHAEL G. OXLEY UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH OF

##### HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 7, 2006*

Mr. GILLMOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor MIKE OXLEY, a man who will be greatly missed in this House. Not only does he have more friends in this chamber than nearly anyone else, he has compiled one of the most distinguished legislative records in this body.

I have had the privilege of knowing MIKE for more than thirty years going back to when we served together in the Ohio Legislature and he has been a good friend to have over that entire period of time.

In Congress, MIKE has not only been involved in the issues of the day, he has been a good athlete and has led his colleagues in pursuing healthful activities. He was Chairman of the Gym Committee. In College, we used to think that anyone who became a three letter man was something special. MIKE has been a three letter man here and much more. He was the manager of the Republican Congressional Baseball, Basketball and Golf teams and compiled a great record of victories.

His record of legislative accomplishments is a long one. With a great ability to reach across the aisle, MIKE OXLEY helped calm the financial markets during a period of great turmoil. Sarbanes-Oxley was the most sweeping reform to our securities laws in 70 years and helped bring an era of corporate scandal to an end. Other successes during MIKE's tenure at the helm of the Financial Services Committee include deposit insurance reform, regulatory relief for banks and thrifts, tireless work on reforms for the government sponsored enterprises, and tremendous work on providing opportunities for increased homeownership.

As MIKE OXLEY leaves to enter another phase of his life, we wish both he and his wonderful wife Pat the very best.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON SCHOOL

##### HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to congratulate the Lyndon Baines Johnson Public School 151K, located in Brooklyn, New York, on its centennial anniversary. Since its inception, Lyndon Baines Johnson School has maintained a standard of academic excellence, thereby enriching the lives of elementary schoolchildren throughout Bushwick.

Originally known as Public School 151K, Lyndon Baines Johnson School exemplifies Bushwick's historical dedication to establishing a community-oriented school system. Its name honors the significant achievements of President Lyndon Baines Johnson—from fighting poverty and promoting urban renewal to investing in education and social programs. It is ultimately through upholding the legacy of its